United Nations S/2002/1054

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 September 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 18 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the signing of the Luanda Agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda on 6 September 2002, issued on 12 September 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ellen Margrethe **Løj**
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

02-59907 (E) 200902

Annex to the letter dated 18 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on the signing of the Luanda Agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda on 6 September 2002, issued on 12 September 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The Presidency on behalf of the European Union welcomes the signing of the Luanda Agreement on the withdrawal of Ugandan forces from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on cooperation and normalization of relations between the two countries.

On behalf of the European Union, the Presidency is very encouraged to note that withdrawal of forces from Gbadolite and Beni reportedly almost has been finalized and that a timetable for withdrawal from Bunia has been agreed upon. The European Union hopes that the Luanda Agreement will contribute to the ongoing peace efforts in the region.

The Presidency on behalf of the European Union deplores the ongoing fighting in the Ituri-Region having caused a large number of victims among the civilian population, and remains concerned about the prevailing situation of insecurity. The Presidency recalls that as long as its troops are there, Uganda is duty-bound to ensure the protection of the population and to respect the principles of international humanitarian law applicable in this matter.

The Presidency on behalf of the European Union encourages all the Congolese parties to use the political momentum created by the bilateral agreements of Pretoria and Luanda to re-engage in the Inter-Congolese dialogue with the view to reaching an all-inclusive agreement on the transition.

The European Union reassures all parties of its continued support to the process of securing peace and security for all countries and people in the region.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this declaration.